Involvement of private sector in the regeneration of Degraded Forests

2194. SHRI SURESH KALMADI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have formulated a scheme to involve the private sector in the regeneration of degraded forets areas in the country;

(b) if so, what are the details of the scheme: and

(c) what is the area of forest land which stand degraded in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) In view of the increasing Threat of encroachment upon the large quantum of degraded forest land in the country and the need to afforest it urgently so as to expand green cover, inhibit encroachment and halt soil denudation and also to meet fuel and fodder needs and thereby to reduced pressure on existing natural forests and protected areas, the Government is considering to involve industry in afforestation of severely degraded areas in partnership with State Forest Development Corporations so as to augment the efforts and the financial resources available for afforestation scheme of the Central and State Governments, NGOs and People's Cooperatives.

The scheme under consideration will be finalised only after careful assessment of various issues involved and ensuring protection of traditional rights and concessions being enjoyed by the rural and tribal communities. As envisioned, the scheme is intended to benefit rural and tribal communities by increasing the availability of biomass, fuehvood and fodder, and also opening up avenues for rural employment generation.

(c) The State of Forest Report, 1993, published by the Forest Survey of India, Dehradun has indicated in its fourth assessment of the forest cover of the country based on interpretation of land-sat imagery pertaining to the period 19g9—91, that 25 million ha. of the country's forest cover is Open Forest with crown density between 10% to 40% and about 6 million ha. of forest land is Scrub Area with crown density less than 10%.

Appointment of Environmental Committee

2195. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

, (a) whether it is a fact that. etiviroB-mental committee was appointed into violations of coastal zone of Goa;

(b) if so, when and what were its terms of reference ;

(c) the names of the members of the committee ;

(d) whether any report has been sub-mitted, if so, what were its finding;

(e) what action has since been initiated on the findings;

(f) whether Government would appoint an All India Committee to prove into the coastal violation of the entire country ; and

(g) if not, the reasons for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) A Committee was set up on 21st September, 1994, to assess :

(i) All violations of norms and guidelines including breach of or non-compliance with stipulations with regard to coastal zone regulation by beach resorts and hotels, to whom environmental clearance have been accorded by the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India or/and State Government of Goa.

(ii) Construction and other activities undertaken by proiect proponents or any persons in CRZ without requisite approvals.

(iii) Any sort of violations of rules, norms and/guidelines committed by tourism development, or other activities in the 'No Development Zone*.

(c) The members of this Committee were Sarva Shri Ashok Bhatia, N. P. S. Varde, N. Pandalai, Bittu Sehgal and Debi Goenka.

(d) An interim report lias been submitted wherein the Committee has reported certain violations of the Coastal Zone Regulation etc.

(e) The report is being examined and the action matter has been taken up with the State Government to ensure compliance of the norms.

. (f) and (g) The question of an all India Committee to probe into coastal violations of the entire country has not been examined.

Jamuna Action Plan

2196. MISS SAROI KHAPARDE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) what is the daily quantity of un- ' treated/semi-treated industrial and dome stic waste water dumped into Jomuna from the various drains;

(b) whether it is a fact that the exis-ling sewage treatment capacity is woefully inadequate and that the installed capacity is also not fully utilised;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the quality of Jsmuna water is classified as 'F (unfit for drinking even for animals) and the river is choked with pollution; and

(d) if so. what strategy has been for-mulated to augment the sewage treatment plant and to utilise the existing capacity to the maximum besides acce'erating the progress of the Jamuna Action Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHR1 KAMAL NATH): (a) Nearly 2,635 million litres of domestic and industrial waste is generated per day from 13 towns located along Yamuna where pollution abatement works are to betaken up under the Yamuna Action Plan. The list of the towns with quantity of waste water generated in each town is given in the enclosed Statement *(sec* below) Of the total quantity, nearly 2,000 million litres of combined industrial and domestic waste water is generated from Delhi and is discharged into Yamuna everyday through 17 drains.

(b) The existing sewage trea[f]ment capacitv in Delhi is 1,270 million litre* per day against the daily sewage generation of about 1700 million litres per dav. Of the installed capacity, nearly 180 million litres per day is not utilised due to one of the treatment plants being under renovation and receipt of lower flow in another treatm?nt facility exists except for a small sewage treatment pbnt of 9 million litre*; per day in NOIDA.

(c) The water quality of river Yamuna upstream of Delhi is fit for drinking after conventional treatment. The water qua lity of the river in the city limits of Delhi, Mathura and Agra is of partly D' Class which is fit for propagation of wildlife fisheries and partly 'E' Class which is fit , for irrigation, industrial coolinp, etc.

(d) In Delhi, the existing sewage treat ment capacitv is to be augmented from 1,270 million litres per day to 2,270 million litres per day during VIII Plan by the Government of Delhi under its own programme. In addition, another two sewage treatment plants each of 10 million litres per day are to be set up under the Yamuna" Action Plan. In the other 14 towns, sewage treatment plants are to be set up under the Yamuna Action Plan. Stem have been taken by the Oo\"*mrncnt of Delhi to utilise Hie existing capacity to the maximum after the ongoing works of renovation and repair in other two sewage treatment plants referred to in part (b) above were over. Work on the implementation of Yamuna Action Plan, has begun. Detailed project reports of 24 schemes have been approved so far.

Statement *Quantities of combined waste water generated in* 15 *towns along Yamuna*

S. No.	State/Town	Waste water (in million litres per day)
A.	HARYANA :	
1.	Faridabad	89
2.	Gurgaon	112
3.	Sonepet	23
4.	Panipat	34
5.	Karnal	39
6.	Yamunanagar & Jagadhari	25
B.	DELHI :	
7.	Delhi	2,000
C.	UTTAR PRADESH :	
8.	Saharanpur	33
9.	Mujaffarnagar	29
10.	Gaziabad	80
11.	Noida	45
12.	Vrindavan.	2
13.	Mathura	24
14.	Agra	90
15.	Etawah	10
	TOTAL	2,635

Campaign by Indian Leaders in Nepal Election

2197. SHRI K. R. MALKANI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some Indian encourage or discourage such activities in Nepal;

(b) if so. Government's views on such activity; and

(c) whether Government would like to encourage or discourage such activities ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF TH! MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) to *(c) The* Government of India regards the elections in Nepal as an internal affairs of a friendly neighbouring country and have therefor refra'ned from actions which might be construed as interference in the elect ions. No Indian Government leaders took part in the election campaign in Nepal. Government are in no way associated with actions by individuals from India who may